

Dumping of Newsprint

4440. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether dumping of newsprint in large quantity by U.S.A. Canada and Russia in India has been reported;
- (b) the number of complaints received regarding dumping of newsprint during the last one year;
- (c) the time taken to dispose of these complaints;
- (d) if so, the impact of dumping of newsprint on the production of domestic units; and
- (e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to take anti-dumping measures stern and stricter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (e) The Designated Authority in the Ministry of Commerce has initiated anti-dumping investigations on 20.12.96 against imports of newsprint from USA, Canada and Russia based on a petition filed by Indian Newsprint Manufacturers Association. Under the provisions of Customs Tariff Act and the rules made thereunder, the Authority follows a quasi-Judicial procedure taking into account submissions made by all the interested parties before making any recommendations. The Authority investigates into the existence, degree and effect of the alleged dumping and the injury caused to the Domestic Industry, if any. The investigations in the case of newsprint are in progress and no provisional or final findings have been announced so far.

Restructuring of H.M.T.

4441. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have cleared the restructuring plan submitted by Hindustan Machine Tools;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether HMT is planning to divest non-core business activities and diversifying new growth areas;
- (d) if so, the details of the areas identified so far;
- (e) whether disinvestment package is likely to affect consumer goods section including Lamp division at Hyderabad;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the steps taken to revive loss making units of HMT ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Govt. of India has given in principle approval to HMT to convert individual business groups into Joint Venture Companies if it is in the interest of HMT to do so.

(b) HMT has already formed two Joint Venture Companies viz., (i) Sudmo-HMT Process Engineers (India) Ltd. with M/s. Sudmo Schleicher of Germany for marketing product-lines related to Dairy, Breweries and Allied Industries and (ii) Clearing-HMT Metal Forming Ltd. with M/s. Clearing Niagara Inc., USA for project engineering and marketing services for Metal Forming Machinery and equipment.

(c) to (f) Proposals are under consideration regarding converting HMT's Tractor Business Group into a Joint Venture Company and forming the Lamp Unit into a separate subsidiary of HMT.

(g) The Company is taking following steps inter-alia to revive loss making units

- Formation of Joint Ventures especially for the loss making Lamp and Watch Units.
- Higher value added product-mix.
- Improvement in inventory and debtors turnover ratio.
- Improvement of manpower productivity through innovative productivity aids.
- Re-training and re-skilling especially for employees of Lamps Unit.
- Reducing of manufacturing and marketing process time.
- Improvement in customer reach.
- Improvement in customer services.

[Translation]

Women Courts in Delhi

4442. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether a huge number of cases are pending in the women courts which are functioning in Delhi;
- (b) if so, the number of cases pending for final